



**The Kingston Diocesan Council of  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

**Legislation**

***Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call***

**Directive #4**

**Pages: 2**

**Date:** February 11, 2017

**To:** Parish Council Legislation Standing Committee Chair

**From:** Wilma Turcotte, Diocesan Legislation Standing Committee Chair

**CC:** Diocesan Executive, Provincial Legislation Standing Committee Chair

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**Attachments: Sample Letters x 7**

***Mary, Mother of tender compassion, lead all of us in the footprints of your Son,  
Jesus, and unite them in his love.***

*[Praying with Mary, Michel Clavier]*

Welcome to all new Legislation Standing Committee Chairpersons.

The goal of the Legislation Standing Committee is to monitor the actions of legislators at all levels - municipal, provincial and federal. The official website of the federal government is [www.parl.gc.ca](http://www.parl.gc.ca) and the provincial legislature is [www.ontla.on.ca](http://www.ontla.on.ca). These websites should be checked on a regular basis, to keep abreast of current bills and their status. Keeping in mind the success of our microbeads resolution, please take the time to write letters to your MP, MPP and both provincial and federal ministers. Use the sample letters (*attached*) provided by Resolution Chairperson Linda Squarzola to let your voice be heard. Little by little, we can change the world.

The following provincial bills have caught my attention:

- Bill 20 Improving Mental Health and Addiction Services in Ontario
- Bill 54 Home Care and Community Services Amendment. Resolution 2016-05
- Bill 84 Medical Assistance in Dying Statute Law Amendment Act and Long Term Care
- Bill 89 Supporting Children, Youth and Families.

Carol Richer came across a small booklet entitled 'Living Advent with Mary' and was taken by a section which referred to Mary as 'The Mirror of Justice'. The passage states that "Our Blessed Virgin Mary is a hope-filled woman of justice—the "Mirror of Justice" - as a traditional litany describes her, concerned that hungry be filled with good things. Christians have long envisioned her watching over the poor and lowly with a fierce,

protective mother's love—a woman who isn't squeamish at all about crushing the head of evil under her foot.”

There are many in our League who are also 'mirror of justice', working to feed the hungry, give shelter to homeless and so much more. Through our many resolutions, we have worked to change the world, to speak for those who have no voice and be good to those who cannot repay us. Like Mary we have answered God's call, and set out to be servants of the Lord. [*Taken from Directive #7 - Provincial Council Legislation Standing Committee Chairperson*]

May Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over us and guide us.

Respectfully submitted.

ON.16.04 Training for the Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles by Youth under the Age of 16

Send letters to: The Minister of Transportation (stamp required)

Send copies to: The Honourable Kathleen Wynn, Premier of Ontario  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building, Queens Park,  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1 (stamp required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Provincial member of the Legislature (stamp required)

Your address  
Date

The Honourable Steven Del Duca  
Minister of Transportation  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ferguson Block  
77 Wellesley St West  
Toronto ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Mr. Minister,

I am writing to express my concern that Ontario has no requirement for safety training and certification for the operation of all-terrain vehicles. Children and youth are at greater risk for injuries and death when riding or operating these vehicles. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador have regulations to regulate and provide safety training for the use of ATVs.

I urge the government of Ontario to require training for the safe operation of ATVs for youth under the age of 16 to protect them from serious injury and death. I look forward to hearing from you concerning this issue.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed

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Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed

ON 16.03 Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air

Send letters to: The Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs (No stamp)

Send copies to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada,  
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0K9 (no stamp needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your local Member of Parliament (no stamp needed)

Your address

Date

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett  
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa ON

Dear Ms. Minister,

I am writing to commend your government for expanding the Nutrition North Canada Program in July 2016 to include an additional 36 communities. More Canadians, who live in communities accessible only by air, will benefit from this new policy.

Concerns for food security continue to exist for other remote communities. A study by "Food Secure Canada" found that the cost to feed a family in Northern Canada cost twice as much as in the south.

I urge the federal government to continue striving to provide access to nutritious food as a right for all Canadians. I look forward to your response to this issue.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed

ON.16.02    Equal Access to Permanent Residence, an Amendment to the  
Immigration Act  
2016.01    Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the  
*Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*

Send a letter to:                    the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship  
(no stamp needed)

Send copies to: The Rt. Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada,  
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0K9 (no stamp needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your own Member of Parliament (no stamp needed)

Your Address  
Date

The Honourable John McCallum, M.P.  
Minister of Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship  
365 Laurier Avenue, West  
Ottawa Ontario K1A 1L1

Dear Mr. Minister,

I would like to express my concern regarding the issue of foreign workers being forced to leave Canada because they are not eligible for permanent resident status. As a result their lives are disrupted and some even leave families in Canada when they return to their countries. Migrant workers perform essential labour in Canada, particularly in the agriculture industry.

I ask the government to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act so that foreign workers are allowed to apply for permanent resident status regardless of occupational classification. I look forward to your reply regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed

ON.16.01 Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care

2016.05 Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service

Send letters to: the Minister of Health (no stamp needed)

Send copies to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0K9 (no stamp needed)

To your federal Member of Parliament (no stamp needed)

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Your Address  
Date

The Honourable Jane Philpott  
Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0K9

Dear Ms. Minister

I am writing to request that the federal government include home care as an insured service in the Canada Health Act. Millions of Canadians require help in their homes to assist with long-term health concerns, disabilities or the effects of aging.

Currently, the Canada Health Act regards home care as an "extended health service" but not as an "insured health service". As a result, provincial and territorial governments have the option whether or not to provide the service. National standards are needed.

I urge you to amend the Canada Health Act to address this issue. I look forward to your response to this concern.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed

2016.03 Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for all Inactive Substances and Additives

Send letters to: The Minister of Health (No stamp needed)

Send copies to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0K9 (no stamp needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your local Member of Parliament (No stamp needed)

Your address

Date

The Honourable Jane Philpott  
Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0K9

Dear Ms. Minister,

I am writing to express my concern about the lack of warning labels on food products containing inactive substances and additives, such as colouring agents and excipients. Substances are often added to food to maintain quality, extend shelf life or to enhance its appearance. Some people may have reactions because of particular sensitivities. Appropriate warning labels would allow these individuals to make proper choices.

The problem can also arise in certain medications, as well. Patient information sheets do not contain details about additives and adverse reactions.

Through the identification of inactive substances in food and drug products, as well as a public education program, Canadians can take greater responsibility for their personal health and reduce health costs.

I encourage the government to consider action on these issues. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed



## 2016.02 Eating Well With Canada's Food Guide

Send a letter to: the Minister of Health (no stamp needed)

Send a copy to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0K9 (no stamp needed)

To your federal Member of Parliament (no stamp needed)

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Your Address

Date

The Honourable Jane Philpott  
Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0K9

Dear Ms. Minister,

I would like to commend your government for its decision to completely revise "Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide" as recommended in the 2016 Senate report entitled "Obesity in Canada". However, since it has been nine years since the guide's last revision was issued, it would be preferable to have its replacement completed in as soon as possible.

I urge you to issue a new Canada Food Guide in the near future and that a plan be implemented to update the guide on a regular basis. Canadians must also be made aware of when the most recent review has been completed. I look forward to your response on this issue.

Sincerely,

*Your signature*

Your name printed